

From the **PASTOR'S DESK**

Please read Psalm 1
or use this link to go to it
<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=psalm+1&version=NRSV>
(this particular link takes you to an NRSV passage, but you can change the translation if you would like to read other versions of the passage). I recommend The Passion version, but just be aware, it will sound very different from other versions.

Psalm 1 is not a description of what our political views should be. It is a meditation on what happiness is. The truly blessed have values that are God-centered, not self-centered. The way of the righteous or the wicked is not about a political position, but a path of life worn by constant walking.

"Hate multiplies hate, violence multiplies violence, and toughness multiplies toughness in a descending spiral of destruction. 'The chain reaction of evil ... must be broken, or we shall be plunged into the dark abyss of annihilation. Time is cluttered with the wreckage of communities that surrendered to hatred and violence. For the salvation of our nation and the salvation of mankind, we must follow another way ... So Jesus says, 'Love your enemies' ... While abhorring segregation, we shall love the segregationist. This is the only way to create the beloved community'".

"Loving Your Enemies,"
in Strength to Love
—Martin Luther King Jr.,

The Oxford Advanced Learner's

Dictionary defines magnanimity as "behavior that is kind, generous and forgiving, especially towards an enemy or competitor." We find this description on display in Lincoln's life and speeches. Lincoln's second inaugural address (March 4, 1865), which was delivered just weeks prior to his assassination (April 14, 1865), includes these words in closing: "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations." Certainly, Lincoln had the end of the war and reconstruction of the South in mind.

One who possesses magnanimity of spirit is not petty. A person with a malicious spirit holds grudges and seeks to do harm, get even. A leader who is characterized by magnanimity will not allow personal or public grievances to get in the way of pursuing the greater good, as we find in Lincoln's second inaugural.

MAGNANIMOUS

means

generous, forgiving, noble, unselfish

Sentence

"She was **magnanimous** in victory, praising her opponent's efforts."



Continued from pg 1...

Lincoln looked to reconstruction of the South after the Civil War to bring about full inclusion in the union and a “just and lasting peace” not simply for the United States, but for “all nations.”

With the Lord Jesus’ resurrection and ascension, and the Spirit’s descent at Pentecost, his followers did not seek vengeance, but repentance and forgiveness on Jesus’ behalf for the restoration of all peoples to God. They bore the fruit of Jesus’ magnanimous spirit with malice toward none.

Blessings and See You in Church!
Pastor Joyce <><



9/6 “The Wearable Christ” Romans 13:8-14 Communion Sunday

Fashion advice from Paul tells us exactly what to wear each day. **Hymns:** Lift Up Your Heads, Jesus’ Hands Were Kind Hands, I Love to Tell the Story **NEW**
Closing Hymn: Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing

9/13 “Choking on Forgiveness” Matthew 18:21-35

Is forgiving someone 77 times enough? **Hymns:** To God Be the Glory, Kum Ba Yah, Lord, You Give the Great Commission

9/20 Hymn Sing – Don Garber leading worship at both churches

Hymns: How Great Thou Art, Hymn of Promise, The Old Rugged Cross, Amazing Grace, Pass It On, Just A Closer Walk With Thee

9/27 “Success Is Not a Ladder” Philippians 2:1-13

That dirty, mundane job may just make you happier. **Hymns:** For the Beauty of the Earth, Jesus, United by Thy Grace, They’ll Know We Are Christians



Upcoming Event

Fashion Show & Brunch

Sponsored by
Vergas Looneys
Relay for Life



Gnome One Fights Cancer Alone

October 3rd 10:00 am – Noon
St John’s Lutheran Fellowship Hall
410 E Scharf Ave, Vergas

Tickets \$25 ~ Available at local businesses
or call Bev at 218-234-6492
Silent Auction, Win Prizes, Mimosas

Special Raffle: Tickets \$5
\$500 prize at Ditterich’s Mercantile



Shared with us by St Michael's United Methodist Church
In Lake Havasu City, Arizona
"Do Good, Do no harm; Stay in love with God"

Greetings beloved St Michael's family and friends,

I pray you are safe and wanted to let you know that the scam email that has gone around has been happening in other churches as well. **PLEASE** alert your home church to be suspicious about someone emailing the office or parishioners, claiming to be one of their beloved parishioners needing the church directory emailed to them. Sadly and unfortunately, unlike St. Michael's, where we DID NOT have parishioners photos posted in the directory, one church sent out their directory with photos and the scammers are using those photos as identity fraud along with the directory information.

Phone scams are also taking place. Scammers are pretending to be your bank or credit card company and scamming you into thinking you have an issue and to give them access to your account. **HANG UP IMMEDIATELY!** The longer they keep you on the phone the more time they have to clone your phone and all your "Contact" information of your family and friends. **DO NOT** fall for any calls from banks, organizations or person via phone. Hang up and call the bank, organization or person back to verify that they actually did call you.

Please beware and take care, **NEVER** give out personal information or numbers over the phone or by email.

Grace and peace in Christ
Pastor Sandy Lee Johnson
St. Michaels UMC



Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENT

September 26th

Events start at 9am with Hairyman Yoga -
and end with the street dance at 7pm



- **FREE!** 4:30 PM: HAIRIEST PERSON / BEST MULLET / MATING CALL CONTESTS
Baseball Field.

Hunt for the HAIRYMAN

September 1st – 26th at
participating businesses

WIN PRIZES!

DRAWING September
27th

- **12 PM: SIDE-BY-SIDE TRAIL RIDE**
Loonie's Pub
Cost: \$20/Machine (cash at registration).
4 Groups – 45 miles – 2 Bar Stops.
Registration starts at 9 am.

NEW FALL

Bible Study



**Begins Wednesday Oct 7th – 10:30 am in person at Dent UMC or at 6:30 pm online via Zoom, continues every Wednesday thru Nov 11th.
Cost: \$5 – just to cover printing costs, no book needed.**

In May 2025, the bishops of The United Methodist Church released a vision statement designed to help the whole church live into its mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. They built the statement around three movements: loving, serving, and leading. Then they deepened the call by naming the Spirit that inspires and empowers these actions.

We are not called just to love, but to love boldly. We are not called just to serve, but to serve joyfully. We are not seeking those who will merely lead, but those who will lead courageously. The adverbs bring a spark to the statement.

The full vision statement reads: *“The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.”*

This vision statement complements The UMC’s longstanding mission statement, inspired by Matthew 28:18–20: *“The mission of The United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”*

About the Series

To help churches explore and embody this vision, Discipleship Ministries offers a six-week worship series and small group study titled Embracing an Adverbial Faith. The series invites congregations to go deeper into what it means to love, serve, and lead not as obligations, but as expressions of a life formed by the Holy Spirit.

Week 1: Disciples Formed by Jesus Christ

Week 2: Disciples Empowered by the Holy Spirit

Week 3: Love Boldly

Week 4: Serve Joyfully

Week 5: Lead Courageously

Week 6: Disciples Transform the World

All folks are welcome to participate – no Bible knowledge required. Look for sign-up sheets in church.



The Vergas Church Ladies

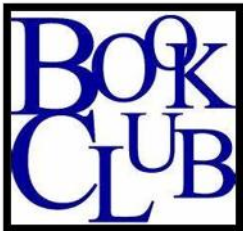
The Church Ladies are preparing for their Annual Good Stuff Sale happening on November 8th before and after church. There will be craft and baked items for sale for free will offering. This sale supports our Shoe Box Mission. More information on how you can help will be coming soon. Also on November 8, the Band of Faith will play at the combined church service at 10:30 followed by a potluck lunch. Come and listen, shop, and eat as well as attend church.

**Our next meeting
will be Sept 17th,
12:30pm
at the church**



AD COUNCIL MEETING

**Dent: Wed. Sept 16th 3pm
Vergas: Sept 23rd 6:30pm**



Next Meeting
Tues, Oct 6th 12:30pm
Location and Book TBD
When decided it will be in the
Bulletin Announcements



Dent Breakfast Club



Meets at Drew's Diner
9am on the first
Wednesday of the month



S/PPRC MEETING

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH
11:45 AM AT VERGAS**



SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEERS

September Ushers

Austin & Darlene H

Sept Liturgist

Peggy Meissner

Sep	Fellowship
06	Peggy Meissner
13	Lisa Wrabek
20	Ivy & Rob M.
27	Carolann & Don G

Sep	Vergas Liturgist	Vergas Ushers	Fellowship
06	Tonya J	Faye & Tonya	Neil & Donna S.
13	Bev F	Byron & Connie Z	Connie Z
20	Rick N	Rick & Margy N	Margy N.
27	Carla R.	David & Carla R.	
		Communion Set Up	Donna Strawhorn

If you are unable to be there on a Sunday, please find a substitute to fill in for you. Thank You!

Happy Anniversary

Vergas

Sept 13th David & Carla Reiten

Dent

Sept 23rd Lyndon & Peggy Maasjo

Sept 12th Pastor Joyce & Peter

*BORN IN
September*



Vergas Birthdays

Sep 4th Margy Nelson
Sep 12th Keith Sandau
Sep 13th Lorna Jacobson

Dent Birthdays

Sep 10th Darlene Holtz



Happy Grandparents day

Sunday, Sept 13th





Church Missions

July / August / September



Vergas Mission of the Quarter



The Third quarter mission, Lend A Hand Up Lend A Hand Up has several advantages to other fundraising efforts. If the cause is verified, they give a 20% boost to the funding with 0 administration fees making the gift to the family in need higher by 20% than what was donated

Requests must be submitted through a fundraising champion in partnership with the individual/family benefitting from the fundraising campaign. We believe the extra time and upfront thought is well spent toward maintaining the integrity of all involved; fundraising champions, donors and recipients.

Vergas Local Outreach

The local mission dollars of \$160, that were not used in August for the community dinner and the ice cream treats in the park will be added to the \$300 for October and will be sent to the schools at Perham, Pelican Rapids, and Frazee/Vergas for school supplies for students who don't have what they need.

Please let the Ad Council know of any local needs. Thank you for your continued support of missions.



Dent Mission of the Quarter ~ Rudolph's Closet



This is a wonderful and special event that Dent holds every year. The community children are invited to come and shop for gifts for Christmas for their family members. They will be assisted with shopping, all gifts will be wrapped and refreshments are served.

The event is from 9 am to 12 noon on the 2nd Saturday in December. Same day as Dent's Santa Day.

Dent UMC will be collecting donations and money to help put this event together



Thank you for your continued support

A Thought for The Day



"Worship Times"

Dent UMC

8:30am Pre Fellowship
9am Worship Service

Vergas UMC

9:30am Adult Sunday School (Sep thru May)
10:30am Worship Service
11:30am Coffee Fellowship



Livestream Service begins at 10:30am on the [Vergas Facebook page](#)



*Recorded Service will be posted on YouTube and [dentvergasumc.org](#)
Click on the icon or link to go to the site*

Are there things you would like to see each month in your newsletter? Would you like to write an article? Submit photographs? Share a recipe? Please let us know and we will do our best to include it here. Also, If you want your Newsletter delivered by email. Please let Sheri Schoenberger know at sheri.Lschoenberger@gmail.com or call her at 218-329-7465

Additions to the newsletter, **deadline for October is September 26, 2026.**

We will be sending out the newsletter on the first or second Sunday of each month, if possible. To defray costs the newsletter will be offered in the following formats:

Email - Website - In person pick up at church - 1st or 2nd Sunday of the month.

US Mail - Remaining newsletters will be mailed on the 1st or 2nd Monday of the month.

Church Secretary / Newsletter editor

Sheri Schoenberger

Phone or text: 218-329-7465

email: sheri.Lschoenberger@gmail.com

September / October 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 12:30pm Book Club at The Gobbler in Frazee	2 9am Dent Breakfast Club Drew's Dinner 4pm Kayaking Loon Lake	3	Margy N (V) 4	5
6	Labor Day	7	8	9 Darlene H. (D) 10	11	Keith S. (V) 12 Pastor Joyce & Peter.
Lorna J. (V) 13 Grandparent's Day David & Carla R. (V)	14	15	Ad Council 16 3pm Dent Vergas changed to 23rd	17 12:30 pm Church Ladies	18	19
20	21	22 6:30pm Vergas Ad Council Lyndon & Peggy M. (D)	23	24 4pm Kayaking Lisa Wrabek's	25	26 9am Hairymen Festival
27 11:45 SPPRC Meeting @ Vergas	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6 12:30pm Book Club	7 9am Dent Breakfast Club	8	9	10